

March 7, 2002

The Honourable Dianne Cunningham
Minister
Training, Colleges and Universities
Government of Ontario
Mowat Block, 3rd Floor
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Dear Minister:

On behalf of the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board, I am very pleased to transmit the Board's recommendations on the applied degree program proposals that you forwarded to the Board for review and recommendation. In forwarding those applications to the Board, you asked the Board to recommend the twelve which best meet the criteria.

The review process entailed the use of external experts whose reports were considered by the Board along with the responses of the colleges to the reports. On balance, the expert reviews were positive, yielding an impressive image of the strength of our college system. However, the result was challenging for the Board, which faced the difficult task of sorting out which of the programs best meet the criteria.

The attached list contains the programs recommended for Ministerial consent. These programs were recommended strongly by the expert panels, met every standard, and are ready for implementation as proposed by the college.

Please note the Board's recommendation that the terms and conditions of consent should include a specific commitment on the part of each college to continue to ensure that its program conforms to the Board's standards and benchmarks and any additional commitments made by the college during the application and review process.

Yours sincerely,

Dale Patterson
Chair

Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board
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The Post-secondary Education Choice and Excellence Act, 2000 permits the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities to grant consent to colleges of applied arts and technology to offer applied degree programs following receipt of a recommendation from the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board. The Minister makes the final decision on all applications.

Under the provisions of the Pilot Project approved by the Government of Ontario, the Ministry intends to approve up to twelve applied degree programs in each of two rounds of competition. The Minister has provided specific guidance in her *Terms of Reference* to the Board on the review of such applications.

The Minister forwarded 23 applications to the Board for review and a recommendation. Subsequently, one application was withdrawn. Following its guidelines and procedures, the Board has ensured that an expert panel reviewed each of the remaining 22 applications individually. Before making a recommendation to the Minister, the Board provided each applicant with an opportunity to review and respond to the panel's final report to the Board.

In formulating its recommendations to the Minister, the Board has given full consideration to the college's proposal, the advice of the Quality Assessment Panel, and the college's responses to the panel's report. At its meeting on Thursday March 7, 2002, the Board met to conclude its deliberations, and in accordance with s.5(3) of the *Post-secondary Education Choice and Excellence Act*, the Board's standards, and the Minister's criteria for applied degrees, to prepare the Board's recommendations to the Minister regarding the twelve college proposals that best meet the Board's criteria for applied baccalaureate degree programs.

1. Recommendation – Programs Best Meeting the Criteria and Recommended for Consent

The Board recommends that each of the programs in the attached list be granted consent. The Board has concluded that these programs will ensure that graduates have achieved the learning outcomes at the degree level and will equip graduates to be effective practitioners in the field. The design of the curriculum responds effectively to professional and other requirements in the field of study. The Board finds that the Colleges involved have the capacity to deliver a high quality program. There is demonstrable economic need for programs of this nature at the applied baccalaureate degree level. Each college has committed in the application process to implement policies acceptable to the Board with respect to student protection, faculty qualifications, evaluation and renewal as well as a program evaluation plan that conforms to the principles and guidelines for good practice, as outlined in the Board's handbook for submissions for the pilot project.

2. Recommendation—Conditions of Consent

The Board has made its recommendation on the basis of the original application and subsequent college responses to reports and recommendations. The Board strongly recommends that, in addition to standard terms and conditions of Ministerial consent, each college should be required as a condition of consent to maintain the program's conformity with the standards and benchmarks approved by the Board for applied degree programs under the pilot project and to fulfill any commitments made to satisfy requirements during the application and assessment process.

The Board recommends that consent be granted for five years, renewable following a further review of the program by the Board.

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College	Program Title
Algonquin	• Bachelor of Applied Business (E-Business Supply Chain Management)
Centennial	• Bachelor of Applied Information Sciences (Computer and Communication Networking)
Conestoga	• Bachelor of Applied Technology (Integrated Advanced Manufacturing Technologies) • Bachelor of Applied Technology (Integrated Telecommunication and Computer Technologies)
George Brown	• Bachelor of Applied Business (Financial Services)
Georgian	• Bachelor of Applied Business (Automotive Management)
Humber	• Bachelor of Applied Arts (Paralegal Studies) • Bachelor of Applied Business (Electronic Business)
Mohawk	• Bachelor of Applied Technology (Process Automation)
Seneca	• Bachelor of Applied Business (Financial Services Management) • Bachelor of Applied Technology (Integrated Environmental Site Remediation)
Sheridan	• Bachelor of Applied Arts (Animation)